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ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
Fourth Ordinary Session  
30 – 31 January 2005  
Abuja, NIGERIA

Assembly/AU/5 (IV) Add.5

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A POST OF AU MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

*(Item proposed by the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)*

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A POST OF AU MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Request by the Great Jamahiriya to include an item in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Conference of the African Union, to be held in Abuja, 30 – 31 January 2005 and the explanatory Memorandum justifying the inclusion of this item.

**First:** The item, proposed to be incorporated in the Agenda of the Session.

In accordance with sub-paragraph [2/H] of Article 8 of the AU Conference Procedures Regulations, the Great Jamahiriya requests the inclusion of an item entitled (Creation of a post for the AU Minister of Foreign Affairs) in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference, to be held in Abuja, 30 – 31 January 2005.

**Second:** The Explanatory Memorandum explaining the reasons behind the item inclusion:

- It has become clear that raising high the voice of the African Continent at the international level cannot be realized when 53 Ministers of Foreign Affairs speak on its behalf separately representing their countries.
- The leverage, effectiveness and influence of the Continent's political presence at the international level require that Africa speak with one voice of one Minister i.e. the Union's Minister of Foreign Affairs as this is the practice in other international Unions.
- In conformity with the general objectives of the African Union which necessitate expediting the Continent's political, economic and social integration and to reinforce and defend the unified African positions on issues of mutual interest to the Continent and its peoples so as to create necessary conditions which will enable the Continent to play an effective role in the international economy and in conducting international negotiations on the basis of the provisions of Article 3, sub-para. A, E, H, F, & P of the Constitutive Act of the Union.
- These objectives combined can only be achieved by creating a post of a Minister of Foreign Affairs who will speak on behalf of the Union and who will represent it at the international level, as this is the trend of the natural evolution of international political life through the establishment of regional and international spaces with (Unions) as their political tools.

- The Great Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, being extremely concerned and anxious to safeguard the interests of the Union like other Member States of the Union, stresses the need to develop and activate the institutions of the African Union so as to transcend what has existed, which has been developed as a result of conscious political will which has positively responded to the demands of the peoples of the Continent in quest of reaching a more precise, adequate formulas more responsive to the challenges imposed on the Continent, the Great Jamahiriya requests the inclusion of an item in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of AU Conference, to be held in Abuja 30 – 31 January 2005 entitled (Creation of a post for the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the African Union).

25/11/2004

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# Establishment of a post of AU minister of foreign affairs (Item proposed by the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

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